



wisconsin department of
children + families

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Governor Scott Walker
Secretary Eloise Anderson

Secretary's Office

For Immediate Release

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Child Care Provider Sentenced for Fraud

Due to the continued focus of the Department of Children and Families and Milwaukee law enforcement to stop fraud in the Wisconsin Shares program, another child care provider was sentenced today for stealing from taxpayers. This is the second provider sentenced this month for scamming the Wisconsin Shares program.

Maria Woodruff, owner of Kinder World Child Care, entered a guilty plea for felony theft in May. Today, she was ordered to pay \$25,000 in restitution, sentenced to serve 6 months in jail and 3 years of probation. Woodruff billed the Wisconsin Shares program for children who were not receiving care or did not attend the center. The Department of Children and Families (DCF) uncovered the abuse and suspended payments to the provider in April 2010. DCF investigated the case along with other partners in the Milwaukee Anti-Fraud Task Force.

“The Department of Children and Families is committed to stopping fraudulent providers, saving taxpayer dollars, and keeping children safe,” stated DCF Secretary Eloise Anderson.

By tackling fraud in Wisconsin Shares, the Department of Children and Families has saved taxpayers over \$130 million. Governor Scott Walker is committed to eliminating waste, fraud and abuse of public funds.

These charges are a result of the collaborative work by the Milwaukee Child Care Anti-Fraud Task Force, led by the Department of Children and Families and the Milwaukee County District Attorney’s Office, which works in partnership to investigate and prosecute child care fraud. The joint effort also includes the Milwaukee Police Department, Milwaukee County Sheriff’s Department, Wisconsin Department of Justice, Wisconsin Department of Revenue, Internal Revenue Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and U.S. Attorney’s Office.

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